

CLASSIFICATION **SECRET**CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORTREPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY **East Germany**DATE DISTR. **4 April 1955**SUBJECT **Railroad Activities**NO. OF PAGES **3**PLACE
ACQUIRED NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

25X1

DATE OF
INFO.SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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1. the following numbers of freight trains operated and major train delays occurred in the East German railroad districts between 8 and 21 December 1954:

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Railroad District	Numbers of Freight Trains				Train Delays			
	in December				8	12	18	21
Berlin	935	909	928	914	3	-	3	3
Graefswald	410	378	399	405	-	-	-	-
Schwerin	443	409	431	433	3	3	3	7
Magdeburg	1,129	1,116	1,133	1,104	3	2	6	9
Halle	1,597	1,589	1,606	1,603	6	8	7	7
Erfurt	1,231	1,180	1,221	1,210	7	5	6	11
Dresden	2,204	2,099	2,187	2,194	4	8	3	9
Cottbus	872	861	890	874	3	1	2	4
Total	8,821	8,542	8,795	8,737	29	27	30	50

2. The following data on freight traffic in the GDR in October and November 1954

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- a. Daily average of freight cars loaded:

October 32,898 cars 2
November 34,416 cars

- b. Average round trip time periods of freight cars:

October 2.98 days
November 2.92 days 3

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3.
 traffic control agencies I and II in Berlin, Dresden and Schwerin were placed under the control of the Ministry of Railroads, Finance Section, effective 1 November 1954. RBDs Berlin, Dresden and Schwerin remained, however, in charge of personnel and economic matters of these control agencies.⁴

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STATE	NAVY	NSRB	DISTRIBUTION			
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4. In late December, it was learned that the manufacture of spring spikes for the fastening of rails was resumed. The "TechnischesZentralamt" succeeded in producing a spring steel which was of equal quality as that imported. [redacted] 25X1
[redacted] Mass production has so far been hampered because the rolling of the 8/16 mm spring steel was impossible.⁵ 25X1
Wooden ties were purchased from Rumania despite warnings by experts. These ties were produced from soft green timber which was soaked in poor brown coal tar or a salt solution for lack of tar oil. The durability of these ties is estimated to be from 7 to 10 years.⁶
5. [redacted] 25X1
ferry traffic between Gedser and Warnemuerde was discontinued effective 12 December. Traffic was rerouted via Schwanheide-Buechen-Hamburg.⁷
6. A local resident from Goerlitz stated that, until 20 December 1954, rail traffic had not started over the Neisse viaduct near Goerlitz which had been completed for some time.
1. [redacted] Comment. Compared to previous information, the number of freight trains handled remained about constant. The number of 50 major train delays is the highest number reported so far. [redacted] 25X1
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2. [redacted] Comment. Compared to previous months, the numbers of cars loaded continued to increase. [redacted] 25X1
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3. [redacted] Comment. The 1954 norm of 3 days for a round trip was surpassed again. [redacted] 25X1
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4. [redacted] Comment. These traffic control agencies (Verkehrskontrollen), previously subordinate to RBDs Berlin, Dresden and Schwerin, are charged with the settling of accounts for all transportation services rendered. Control agency I is in charge of passenger traffic, control agency II of freight traffic. The reorganization was decreed with a view to tighten central control. The same tendency was also observed in other fields of railroad activities. 25X1
5. [redacted] Comment. Because of their peculiar dimensions, rails delivered by the USSR can only be fastened to ties by means of spring spikes made of special steel. Previously, this steel was imported from Western countries. [redacted] 25X1
[redacted] 25X1
6. [redacted] Comment. Ties are in short supply in the GDR. The import of ties from Rumania was reported previously. [redacted] 25X1
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7. [redacted] Comment. Railroad ferry traffic [redacted] was probably discontinued because of adverse weather conditions. 25X1
8. [redacted] Comment. The reconstruction of the Neisse viaduct which was destroyed during the war was completed in late September 1954. The viaduct was originally scheduled to be opened to traffic on 3 October 1954, but since that time the opening date has repeatedly been postponed. [redacted] 25X1
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Freight Trains

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in December

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Oct 10. 1944

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